

TITLE 17: CONSERVATION
CHAPTER I: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCHAPTER g: GRANTS

PART 3030
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF) GRANT PROGRAM

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AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by the Outdoor Recreation Resources Act [20 ILCS 860] and the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (36 CFR 59 and 72).

SOURCE: Adopted at 2 Ill. Reg. 45, p. 176, effective November 11, 1978; codified at 5 Ill. Reg. 10671; amended at 7 Ill. Reg. 8779, effective July 15, 1983; amended at 10 Ill. Reg. 13249, effective July 30, 1986; amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 6149, effective April 17, 1990; amended at 16 Ill. Reg. 1816, effective January 17, 1992; recodified by changing the agency name from Department of Conservation to Department of Natural Resources at 20 Ill. Reg. 9389; amended at 26 Ill. Reg. 935, effective January 15, 2002; amended at 27 Ill. Reg. 753, effective January 6, 2003; amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____.

Section 3030.40 Selection Criteria

The following factors are used by the Department in evaluating and recommending local project applications for funding assistance consideration (see Appendix A):

a) Statewide Outdoor Recreation Priorities – 60%

1) Department Statewide Priorities – 35%

Projects are evaluated in terms of their ability to address major outdoor recreation and conservation issues identified by the Department in its Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan. These include, but are not limited to, natural area and wetland preservation, protection of endangered/threatened species and critical habitat resources, conservation education, creation of greenways and long distance trail corridors, water-based recreation,

recreation for disadvantaged populations and adaptive re-use/redevelopment of urban lands, including brownfields. These priorities are listed in the Department's OSLAD/LWCF Local Participation Grant Manual; Illinois Department of Natural Resources Division of Grant Administration, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield IL 62702-1271.

2) Statewide Local Needs Assessment – 25%

Determination of local need is based on a comparison of:

- A) existing local supply of recreation facilities per capita to the statewide median for those facilities as identified in the Department's Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan; and
- B) existing supply and distribution of open space and park land acreage, measured in acres/capita, to the statewide median and/or to locally adopted standards. Recreation needs based on project service area are also given consideration.

b) Project concept and site characteristics – 25%

The project proposal is evaluated in terms of the site's physical and aesthetic qualities, including accessibility; soil, topographic and hydrologic characteristics; site vegetation; compatibility with adjacent land uses; environmental intrusion on the site; impacts to cultural and natural resources; and the overall recreational diversity provided by the project.

c) Local Planning – 10%

The major consideration under this criteria is public support and input into the project plan and existence of a comprehensive local recreation and/or open space plan identifying the proposed project as a priority. Consideration is also given for unique recreation opportunities not specifically identified in a local plan but having documented widespread public support.

d) Other Considerations – 5%

Relevant factors considered in evaluating the overall merits of a project and need for funding include projects located in inner-urban areas; involving private donations; representing economic revitalization efforts; or from applicants not previously benefitting from LWCF assistance.

e) Penalty Factors – (deduct up to 15%)

Consideration is given to the applicant's past performance in completing LWCF or other Department grant projects or unresolved project violations, ability to properly maintain the project site, and failure to cooperate with the Department in

87 completing the Illinois Recreation Facilities Inventory (IRFI).
88

- 89 f) Project Application Review and Grant Award:
90 Department grant staff, in consultation with executive and appropriate resource
91 staff, reviews all applications in accordance with the established evaluation
92 criteria. ~~Preliminary recommendations are then submitted to the Department's~~
93 ~~Natural Resources Advisory Board for consideration at a public hearing~~
94 ~~conducted by the Board~~ after which final recommendations are forwarded to the
95 Director for LWCF grant approval.
96

97 (Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)